

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07 SCI-06

OMB-01 SS-20 AID-20 DODE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01

/131 W

----- 119696

R 111630Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5739

INFO DEA WASHDC

COMNAV BASE GTMO

DISTRICT DIRECTOR US CUSTOMS MIAMI

CCGD SEVEN MIAMI

USCGC DILIGENCE

COMDT COGARD WASHDC

COMLANTAREA COGARD NYNY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINGSTON 3220

DEA WASHDC PASS DEA MIAMI

GTMO PERSONAL FOR RADM GHORMLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PINS, JN-GDS, CASC

SUBJECT: OPERATION BUCCANEER: ERADICATION OPERATIONS

BEGIN

1. ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 AMBASSADOR GERARD ACCOMPANIED
BY S/A SALMI WITH MINISTER MATALON IN HIS OFFICE TO
DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF BUCCANEER IN THE LIGHT OF THE
GOVERNMENT'S VICTORY IN THE PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTION
THAT DAY IN THE PARIS OF ST. ANN'S. AMBASSADOR POINTED
OUT THAT USG HELICOPTERS AND SUPPORTING PERSONNEL HAD
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BEEN DEDICATED TO BUCCANEER IN ORDER TO RELIEVE JDF

EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL FOR LARGE-SCALE ERADICATION EFFORTS. HE SAID THAT IF THE ERADICATION PROGRAM DID NOT GET UNDERWAY SOON THERE WAS MALOUSLY NO NEED FOR USING HELICOPTERS AND AVIATION PERSONNEL TO REMAIN IN JAMAICA. MATALON RE-AFFIRMED HIS COMMITMENT TO LARGE-SCALE ERADICATION, THOUGH HE INDICATED THAT INITIALLY THE TECHNIQUE WOULD BE SLASH-AND-BURN OTHER THAN USE OF CHEMICAL AGENTS. HE SAID HE STILL INTENDED TO GET INTO SPRAYING AT A LATER DATE, BUT WOULD WORK INTO IT SLOWLY WITH BACK-PACK UNITS RATHER THAN AERIAL SPRAY. HOWEVER, HE STILL PLANNED TO UNDERTAKE AERIAL SPRAYING EVENTUALLY. AMBASSADOR LEFT NO DOUBT THAT ACTION ON THE ERADICATION FRONT WAS NECESSARY IF WE WERE TO CONTINUE THE DEPLOYMENT OF RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL IN JAMAICA AT CURRENT LEVELS.

2. THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK WAS DEVOTED TO DETAILED PLANNING FOR ERADICATION OPERATIONS BY THE JDF AND DEA. THE FIRST MAJOR OPERATION JUMPED OFF THE MORNING OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10. FORTY-EIGHT TROOPS, ONE-HALF JDF AND ONE-HALF JCF, WERE FLOWN TO COMMERCIAL-SIZED MARIJUANA FIELDS IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS AND COMMENCED SLASH-AND-BURN ERADICATION. THEY WERE TRANSPORTED IN FOUR TROOP-LIFT HELICOPTERS, TWO BELONGING TO THE DEA AND TWO OF THE JDF. AQAROX

SGELY
10 ACRES OF GROWING MARIJUANA WERE DESTROYED IN THE COURSE OF THE DAY. IN ADDITION, 500 POUNDS OF CURED MARIJUANA AND FOUR GALLONS OF SEED WERE LOCATED IN A CDKHE AND DESTROYED.

3. MONDAY'S STRIKE WAS THE FIRST PART OF A FOUR-DAY CONTINUOUS OPERATION IN THE SAME AREA. DIFFERENT TROOPS BUT IN THE SAME NUMBERS AND MIX WILL BE USED FOR THE SECOND TWO DAYS. DEA REPORTS THAT LZE OPERATION WAS CAREFULLY PLANNED, WELL LED, AND TIGHTLY CONTROLLED BY THE JDF. THIS IS THE LARGEST ERADICATION EFFORT EVER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CARRIED OUT IN JAMAICA BY HEWITT

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